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MAR 1 6 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Takayuki Nyu

Serial No.:

09/598,477

Group Art Unit:

2662

Filed:

Do Not

June 22, 2000

Examiner:

Tsegaye, Saba

For:

CIRCUIT AND METHOD FOR EXCHANGING SIGNALS BETWEEN

NETWORK NODES

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Box AF Alexandria, VA 22313 - 1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir:

In preparation for immediate appeal and in response to the Office Action dated December 28, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1-24 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 9 and 14-15 are amended to more clearly define the invention. Claims 1, 9-10, 12, 14-17, and 24 are independent.